

### **REMARKS**

This amendment is in response to the Office Action mailed August 24, 2007. Claims 1-18 were pending. In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected. Claims 1-18 have been amended. Claims 1-18 are now pending.

Claims 2, 5-9, 11, 14-17 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as lacking antecedent basis. Claims including claims 2, 5-9, 11, 14-17 been amended to address the rejection.

In the Office Action, claims 1-18 were rejected over U.S. Patent No. 6,665,780, hereafter known as Bradley, alone or in combination with U.S. Patent No. 6,757,696, hereafter known as Multer.

All of the independent claims (1, 10, 18) have been amended to recite that the data replication management server does not start if the control policy is not associated at a highest grouping level. Support may be found in the specification, at least at page 29 lines 20-21.

Neither Bradley nor Multer discloses or suggests the data replication management server not starting if the control policy is not associated at a highest grouping level, as required by all the claims as amended.

All of the claims including the dependent claims are patentable for at least the same reasons stated above.

In view of the foregoing, the Applicant believes that the application is in condition for allowance and respectfully request favorable reconsideration.


Applicant: Yao Wang, *et al.*  
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In the event the Examiner deems personal contact desirable in the disposition of this case, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at (508) 293-7074.

Please charge all fees occasioned by this submission to Deposit Account No. 05-0889.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 9.27.07

  
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